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Claim Amendments

Claims 1-27 (canceled).

28. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method of operation for a wireless local area network (WLAN) that includes a chain of repeaters, the method comprising:

- (a) tuning on a channel of a frequency band by a first repeater to determine whether the channel is available for use;
- (b) testing the channel for reliability by sending data that includes real-time audiovisual content from the first repeater to a next repeater in the chain at a throughput of at least 11Mbps, the first repeater and the next repeater being physically obstructed from a line-of-sight view, and receiving data back from the next repeater by the first repeater, the first repeater transmitting during even time intervals and receiving during odd time intervals, the next repeater transmitting during the odd time intervals and receiving during the even time intervals; and
- (c) allocating the channel for use as a transmission link between the first and next repeaters.

29. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 further comprising repeating (a)-(c) for each repeater in the chain.

30. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 further comprising repeating (a)-(c) for each repeater in the chain with each transmission link utilizing a different channel.

31. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 further comprising monitoring signal quality of the channel during data transmissions.

32. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 31 further comprising switching to a different channel if the signal quality falls below a certain level.

33. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 wherein (a)-(c) are performed by at least one processor of the WLAN.

34. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 wherein (a)-(c) are performed by at least one processor of an access point that functions as a data source.

35. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 wherein the frequency band comprises a 5GHz frequency band.

36. (Previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 28 wherein the frequency band comprises a 2.4GHz frequency band.

37. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method of operation for a wireless local area network (WLAN) that includes a source access point and a chain of repeaters, the method comprising:

transmitting, by the source access point and each of the repeaters, at a first power level sufficient to establish communications with all of the repeaters in the chain;

reducing transmission power output, by at least one of the repeaters, to a second power level.

38. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 37 wherein the first power level comprises a maximum power level.

39. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 37 wherein the second power level comprises a minimum level needed to maintain communications.

40. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 37 further comprising reducing transmission power output by the source access point.

41. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method of operation for a wireless local area network (WLAN) that includes a source access point and a chain of repeaters to provide a wireless connection between a source access point and a destination device, the method comprising:

transmitting, by each of the repeaters, at a first power level sufficient to establish communications with all of the repeaters in the chain;

reducing transmission power, by at least one of the repeaters, to a minimum level needed to maintain communications with all of the repeaters.

42. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 41 wherein the reducing of transmission power is responsive to a command from a processor associated with the source access point.

43. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 41 wherein the reducing of transmission power is responsive to a command from a processor associated with the at least one of the repeaters.

44. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method of operation for a wireless local area network (WLAN) that includes a source access point and a chain of repeaters, the method comprising:

transmitting, by each of the repeaters, at a first power level to establish communication links between the repeaters in the chain;

reducing transmission power, by each of the repeaters, to a minimum level needed to maintain the communication links.

45. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 44 wherein the reducing of transmission power is responsive to a command from a processor associated with the source access point.

46. (Withdrawn) The computer-implemented method of claim 44 wherein the first power level comprises a maximum power level.